

In the claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of stimulating proliferation of a regulatory T cell, comprising contacting the cell with EBI3-p35.
2. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein the EBI3-p35 comprises at least two EBI3 components and two p35 components.
3. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 2 wherein the EBI-p35 is a heterotetramer consisting of two of each component.
4. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 2 wherein at least one EBI3 component and at least one p35 component are covalently linked to one another.
5. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 4 wherein the at least one EBI3 component and the at least one p35 component form a fusion protein.
6. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 4 wherein each EBI3 or p35 component is covalently linked to at least one other such component.
7. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein the EBI3-p35 further comprises one or more heterologous polypeptides covalently linked to one or more of the EBI3 or p35 components.
8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 7 wherein two or more said heterologous polypeptides associate with one another to assist in the association between the EBI3 and p35 components.

9. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8 wherein the heterologous polypeptides associate with one another via disulphide bonds.

10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9 wherein the heterologous polypeptides are antibody Fc regions including hinge regions.

11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 further comprising contacting the regulatory T cell with a substance capable of stimulating signalling through the cell's T cell receptor.

12. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing regulatory T cell activity in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of ~~medicament containing~~ EBI3-p35 cytokine in a carrier to that subject, wherein said composition is effective enhance regulatory T cell activity thereby ameliorating the symptoms of an autoimmune or inflammatory condition or prevent or ameliorate allograft rejection in said subject.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the ~~medicament~~ cytokine containing composition is for the treatment of an automimmune or inflammatory condition characterized ~~characterised~~ by inappropriate or undesirable T cell activation.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 15 ~~16~~, wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of arthritis ~~(e.g. rheumatoid arthritis)~~, gastritis, pernicious anaemia, thyroiditis, insulinitis, diabetes, sialoadenitis, adrenalitis, orchitis/oophoritis, glomerulonephritis, experimental autoimmune encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, atherosclerosis, and ~~or~~ inflammatory bowel disease.

18. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the medicament is for the prevention or amelioration of allograft rejection.

19. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the condition is an allergy.

20. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the condition is asthma.

21. (Withdrawn) An EBI3-p35 molecule comprising an EBI3 component, a p35 component, and a heterologous component, wherein two or more such heterologous components are capable of associating with one another such that two or more such EBI-p35 molecules form a complex.

22. (Withdrawn) A molecule according to claim 21 wherein the EBI3, p35 and heterologous components form a fusion protein.

23. (Withdrawn) A molecule according to claim 21 wherein the heterologous components are capable of associating with one another by formation of disulphide bonds.

24. (Withdrawn) A molecule according to claim 21 wherein the heterologous component is an antibody Fc domain including the hinge region.

25. (Withdrawn) EBI3-p35 as claimed in claim 21 comprising two EBI3 components and two p35 components.

26. (Withdrawn) EBI3-p35 according to claim 25 wherein each of the EBI3 and p35 components is covalently linked to at least one other such component.

27. (Withdrawn) EBI3-p35 according to claim 25 further comprising one or more heterologous components.

28. (Withdrawn) EBI3-p35 according to claim 27 wherein at least one of each of the EBI3, p35 and heterologous components form a fusion protein.

29. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein according to claim 22.

30. (Withdrawn) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 29.

31. (Withdrawn) A host cell comprising an expression vector according to claim 30.

32. (New) A method according to claim 12 wherein the EBI3-p35 comprises at least two EBI3 components and two p35 components.

33. (New) A method according to claim 32 wherein the EBI-p35 is a

heterotetramer consisting of two of each component.

34. (New) A method according to claim 32 wherein at least one EBI3 component and at least one p35 component are covalently linked to one another.

35. (New) A method according to claim 34 wherein the at least one EBI3 component and the at least one p35 component form a fusion protein.

36. (New) A method according to claim 34 wherein each EBI3 or p35 component is covalently linked to at least one other such component.

37. (New) A method according to claim 12 wherein the EBI3-p35 further comprises one or more heterologous polypeptides covalently linked to one or more of the EBI3 or p35 components.

38. (New) A method according to claim 37 wherein two or more said heterologous polypeptides associate with one another to assist in the association between the EBI3 and p35 components.

39. (New) A method according to claim 38 wherein the heterologous polypeptides associate with one another via disulphide bonds.

40. (New) A method according to claim 39 wherein the heterologous polypeptides are antibody Fc regions including hinge regions.